CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for updating a Java Archive (JAR) file content wherein the data within the JAR file is changed and wherein the JAR file structure remains the same before and after the data is changed.
2. The method claim 1 comprising:

   recording the JAR file structure;

   extracting the JAR file content;

   accepting a user specification of an old value and a new value;

   searching the JAR file content for the old value specified by the user;

   replacing the old value with the new value specified by the user; and

   archiving the JAR file content according to the recorded JAR file structure.
3. The method of claim 2 further comprising:

   accepting a user specification of a file and a field; and

   searching for the old value only in the file and the field specified by the user.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein the JAR file content are extracted into a temporary directory.
5. The method of claim 4 further comprising:

   determining if the user desires to update another value; and

   responsive to the determination that the user desires to update another value, accepting a user specification of another old value and another new value.
6. The method of claim 5 further comprising:

   creating the temporary directory; and

   copying the JAR file into the temporary directory.

7. A program product for updating a Java Archive (JAR) file content wherein the data within the JAR file is changed and wherein the JAR file structure remains the same before and after the data is changed.

8. The program product claim 1 comprising:

a memory;

wherein the memory comprises instructions for a computer to perform steps comprising:

recording the JAR file structure;

extracting the JAR file content;

accepting a user specification of an old value and a new value;

searching the JAR file content for the old value specified by the user;

replacing the old value with the new value specified by the user; and

archiving the JAR file content according to the recorded JAR file structure.

9. The program product of claim 8 wherein the steps further comprise:

creating a temporary directory; and

copying the JAR file into the temporary directory.

10. The program product of claim 8 wherein the steps further comprise:

accepting a user specification of a file and a field; and

searching for the old value only in the file and the field specified by the user.

11. The program product of claim 8 wherein the JAR file content are extracted into the temporary directory.

12. The program product of claim 8 wherein the steps further comprise:

determining if the user desires to update another value; and

responsive to the determination that the user desires to update another value, accepting a user specification of another old value and another new value.

13. A Graphical User Interface (GUI) that allows a user to update a value within a Java Archive (JAR) file, the GUI comprising:

a file specification section containing a file located in the JAR file;

a field specification section containing a field located in the file;

an old value specification section containing an old value located in the field;

a new value specification section containing a new value;

wherein a user can replace the old value with the new value; and

wherein the JAR file structure remains the same before and after the data is changed.

14. The GUI of claim 13 further comprising a values updated section; and wherein the values updated section records the history of the replacement of the old values by the new values.

15. The GUI of claim 14 wherein the indication by a user to replace the old value with the new value causes a processor to perform steps comprising:

recording the JAR file structure;

extracting the JAR file content;

accepting a user specification of an old value and a new value;

searching the JAR file content for the old value specified by the user;

replacing the old value with the new value specified by the user; and

archiving the JAR file content according to the recorded JAR file structure.

16. The GUI of claim 15 further comprising:

creating a temporary directory; and

copying the JAR file into the temporary directory.

17. The GUI of claim 16 further comprising:

accepting a user specification of a file and a field; and

searching for the old value only in the file and the field specified by the user.

18. The GUI of claim 17 wherein the JAR file content are extracted into the temporary directory.

19. The GUI of claim 18 further comprising:

determining if the user desires to update another value; and

responsive to the determination that the user desires to update another value, accepting a user specification of another old value and another new value.

20. An apparatus for updating a Java Archive (JAR) file content wherein the data within the JAR file is changed and wherein the JAR file structure remains the same before and after the data is changed, the apparatus comprising:

means for creating a temporary directory;

means for copying the JAR file into the temporary directory;

means for recording the JAR file structure;

means for extracting the JAR file content;

means for accepting a user specification of an old value and a new value;

means for accepting a user specification of a file and a field;

means for searching for the old value only in the file and the field specified by the user;

means for replacing the old value with the new value specified by the user;

means for archiving the JAR file content according to the recorded JAR file structure;

wherein the JAR file content are extracted into the temporary directory;

means for determining if the user desires to update another value; and

responsive to the determination that the user desires to update another value, means for accepting a user specification of another old value and another new value.